

10/525,927

15806US

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 22-25 stand rejected for the reasons indicated in the Office Action. In response, claims 4, 5, 22 and 24 have been canceled, claims 1, 23 and 25 have been amended, and new claims 26-47 have been added. Additionally, claims 8, 10, 15, 19 and 20 have been amended to correct minor grammatical and typographical errors and to change the British English spelling of some words to American English spelling. No new matter is added by these amendments. Entry of these amendments is hereby requested.

With Respect to the Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102, Pages 2-4, Paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Office Action:

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 22-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent 5,327,351 to Matsuura et al. for the reasons indicated on pages 2-4, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Office Action. In response, claims 4, 5, 22 and 24 have been canceled, and claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 4 and 5, where claim 5 (originally dependent on claim 1 through claim 4) was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Further claims 23 and 25 have been amended to depend from newly amended claim 1. Claims 2, 3 and 6-21, along with amended claims 23 and 25 depend from newly amended claim 1. Therefore, claims 1-3, 6-21, 23 and 25 are believed to be allowable.

With Respect to the Newly Added Claims 26 through 47:

Claims 26 through 47 have been added. Of these claims, claim 26 is the only independent claim, and contains all of the limitations of originally filed claims 1 and 7, where claim 7 (originally dependent on claim 1) was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 27-47 depend from claim 26 and contain the limitations of originally filed claims 2-6, 8-21, 23 and 25. Therefore, claims 26-47 are believed to be allowable.

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CONCLUSION

For the reasons indicated above, the Applicant believes that all pending claims, claims 1-3, 6-21, 23 and 25-47 are believed to be allowable and a Notice of Allowance is requested. If, however, there remain any issues which can be addressed by telephone, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

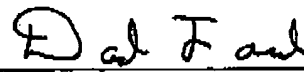
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 19-2090.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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